

Housing Industry in Wasatch Back on its Feet

Wave 3 May 1984

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a two part study about the housing industry, and its recovery since the increase in the number of residents in the County. This first part studies the indicators which say whether the climate is back to normal.

By Robert Hicken
Managing Editor

HEBER CITY—"Our office has never been busier," stated Wasatch County Planner Robert Mathis. "We can't keep up with all the questions about building." Wasatch County Inspector re-

ported that there has been a significant increase over the last year in the number of permits issued for building. Clyde Broadbent explained that the county was well ahead of last year in the number of permits issued and predicted that if the trend continues "we're gonna have

a pretty good year."

County Planner, Bob Mathis, speculates that a number of the questions about development are just that, questions. Mathis didn't expect that every proposed, or questioned development will go through, but did say that the

planning office was swamped.

Karen Korfanta, of Century 21 Wasatch Mountain Properties, explained that this year there seems to be more lookers than usual.

"When the interest rates went up," Korfanta explained, "there was a group that dropped out, and there was a group that says we'd better move before the interest rates get too high."

Korfanta said that the group which dropped out, were those who didn't qualify for financing, and that those that are seriously considering buying are those who have been putting off, waiting for

the financing to improve. Now that there is an increase in the interest rates, these people have become concerned with housing, and are ready to buy.

"Right now, if we could get a break in the weather, we'd do a lot more," she continued. During the early part of the month of April, when the weather was hot, there were numerous calls made about housing, mostly because people would be out driving around, looking. Now, with the poor weather, it doesn't appear that there are as many calls.

Even with the higher interest

rates, there are numerous ways for financing. "There are programs being offered on a large number of homes that are on the market, which make it easier for financing."

Korfanta stated that a large majority of home buyers are now looking for acreage with their purchase. A home with an acre of ground. She explained that there are a large number of homes that are available in Heber City, but they don't have the acreage needed to make the sale.

"We're on an upswing," said Korfanta.

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The Health Department has set up clinics for those kindergarten children who need booster immunizations and lazy eye checks before registering for school. These

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Dr. Bill Ferguson

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